



April 13, 2005

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Twelve Receive Awards from Cal Poly College of Agriculture

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- Cal Poly's College of Agriculture recently honored 12 faculty and staff members for outstanding work and accomplishments.



"Without these individuals going above and beyond in their work, we would not be able to provide our students with the level of instruction that Cal Poly is famous for," said College of Agriculture Dean David Wehner. The annual awards ceremony was held in early April.

This year's awards, many sponsored by industry, were:

- . **The Dole Faculty Award for Teaching**, given to Professor Walter Mark, Natural Resource Management Department. The award honors teaching excellence and innovation. Mark has been with Cal Poly and the College of Agriculture for 31 years and has distinguished himself not only as an innovative teacher and researcher, but also as the former director of the Swanton Pacific Ranch.
- . **The Dole Staff Award** went to Jeff Reimer, technician for the Natural Resources Management Department. Reimer provides support to faculty, staff and students in facilities and land management, computer and equipment management, and is essential in supporting applied research and forest management projects.
- . **The Outstanding Student Advisor Award**, sponsored by Seminis, went to Horticulture and Crop Science Professor David Headrick, advisor to the Crops Club and advisor to many students within and outside the department. This award is for distinguished service and excellence as a student advisor.
- . **The New Faculty Award for Teaching**, sponsored by Monsanto, went to Food Science and Nutrition Professor Lisa Nicholson. Recipients are instructors with less than 10 years of university teaching who demonstrate outstanding potential and commitment. Nicholson was recognized for her dedication to student development and her efforts with her community-based service learning course.

. **The Sustained Excellence Teaching Award**, sponsored by Sunkist, went to Horticulture and Crop Science Professor John Phillips. The award recognizes instructors with 10 or more years of distinguished university teaching. Professor Phillips has masterfully taught virtually every course in the Crop Science curriculum in his 25 years with the Department.

. **The Plant Sciences Faculty Excellence Award**, sponsored by Plant Sciences, Inc., was presented to Dairy Science Professor Phil Tong. The award recognizes outstanding contributions by faculty in applied research, teaching and service. Tong was honored for his extensive research and graduate teaching efforts with the Dairy Products Technology Center.

. **The College of Agriculture Special Awards**, presented to Professor John Harris of the Natural Resource Management Department and Professor Scott Jeffreys of the Horticulture and Crop Science Department. Harris was recognized for his outstanding service within the department, Academic Senate, community and student clubs. Jeffreys was honored for his efforts to enhance the beekeeping program by renovating facilities and increasing student demand for the courses.

. **The Rain for Rent Agriculture Staff Awards** were presented to Ellen Brack, a support technician in the Horticulture and Crop Science Department; and Karen Hampshire, a clerk for the Irrigation Training and Research Center. Brack was recognized for her work in upgrading the Environmental Horticultural Unit. Hampshire was honored for expanding her role in supporting the many faculty and staff of the IRTC.

. **The Talley Farms Agriculture Staff Award** was presented to Jackie Hatch of the Dairy Science Department and the Smithers-Oasis Agriculture Staff Award was presented to Claudia Tantum of the Horticulture and Crop Science Department. Both individuals were recognized for their dedication and service to their respective departments.

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